

Title 197 - NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Chapter 4 - OPERATOR CERTIFICATION, TYPES OF CERTIFICATES

001 The director will issue Class L, Class I, Class II, Class III, Class IV, Industrial I, Industrial II, Industrial III, and Industrial IV certificates to operators who pass the respective certification test and also meet the education and experience requirements.

002 Class L and Class I, wastewater treatment facility owners are eligible to obtain temporary certificates for their operators.

002.01 The director may issue a temporary certificate to an applicant who is a new operator at a Class L or a Class I wastewater treatment facility which requires only one operator. When issued, this temporary certificate is valid for a period of one year from the date of hire. During the period of this temporary certification, the operator must complete all necessary requirements to obtain certification.

002.02 The Class L temporary certificate and the Class I temporary certificate are operator and site specific and may not be transferred to another facility or operator.

002.03 The director will not issue a temporary certificate at any Class L and Class I wastewater treatment facilities in consecutive years without acceptance of written justification of due cause or extenuating circumstances.

002.04 Owners shall request a temporary certificate for their operator within 30 days of hiring the operator.

002 Owners of non-compatible industrial wastewater treatment facilities are eligible to obtain temporary certificates for their uncertified operators.

002.01 The director may issue a temporary certificate to an applicant who is a new operator at an Industrial I wastewater treatment facility. When issued, this temporary certificate is valid for a

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period of one year from the date of hire. During the period of this temporary certification, the operator must complete all necessary requirements to obtain certification.

002.02 The temporary certificate is operator specific and site specific and may not be transferred to another facility or operator.

002.03 The director will not issue a temporary certificate at any wastewater treatment facility in consecutive years without acceptance of written justification of due cause or extenuating circumstances.

002.04 Owners shall request a temporary certificate for their operator within 30 days of hiring the operator.

003 Provisional certification will be issued to applicants who pass the certification test for any level of classification but do not meet all of the educational and experience requirements. Operator(s) may request removal of provisional status upon completion of education and experience requirements.

003.01 The owner of a wastewater treatment facility may request the department to allow an operator with a provisional certificate to be in DRC of their wastewater treatment facility.

003.02 The director has the discretion to authorize an operator with a provisional certificate to be in DRC of a wastewater treatment facility if the operator has obtained a level of provisional certification which is equivalent to the facility classification.

004 Restricted certification is available to applicants who qualify for alternative testing as addressed in Chapter 5, Section 010. Restricted certification of an operator is valid only at the wastewater treatment facility the applicant was tested to operate.

005 New or promoted employees hired as operators in a Class II, III, IV, or Industrial I, II, III, IV wastewater treatment facility will have up to six months (from hiring date) to obtain the required level of certification of the position.

Enabling Legislation: Neb. Rev. Stat. §81-15,130(1)(3)(9); §81-15,131;
§81-15,132; §81-15,133; §81-15,135 and §81-15,138.

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